

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15-21 were previously pending in the Application, of which claims 12, 16 and 17 have been cancelled. Claims 1-11, 13, 15, and 18-21 are currently pending.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 16 and 17 have been cancelled, rendering this rejection moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Regarding the rejection in light of Bryan et al. U.S. Patent 5,674,296, this patent is not available as prior art because it is not “by another.” Specifically, the exact same inventive entity exists both in the present application and Bryan et al. U.S. Patent 5,674,296. See MPEP 2136.04.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 2 and claim 11 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 12, making their rejection under Navas US Patent 5,375,823 and/or Mehdizadeh US Patent 5,928,284 moot. Claim 13 has also been amended similar to claim 1 to require “ovoid” discs.

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Rogozinski US Patent 5,888,226. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 11 requires “a hollow cylindrical housing”. The shapes of the housing 20 identified by the examiner are not cylindrical. For one, they both include a base plate member 23. Also, there does not appear to be any longitudinal axis for an alleged cylindrical shape.

Conclusion

As a result of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that all of the claims of the Application are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers provided below if further consideration is required. Also, Deposit Account No. 08-1394 may be used for any over or under payments.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on 3-7-05
Bonnie Boyle